

**RECEIVED**  
**CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

**AUG 01 2005**

Attorney's Docket 071469-0308803  
Client Reference: PC0240A2

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:  
STEVEN T. FINK

Confirmation No: 3335

Application No.: 10/807,383

Group Art Unit: 2829

Filed: March 24, 2004

Examiner:

Title: APPARATUS FOR MONITORING THE CONNECTION STATE OF  
CONNECTORS AND A METHOD FOR USING THE SAME

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**CERTIFICATION OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION  
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.8**

I hereby certify that the following papers are being facsimile  
transmitted to the Patent and Trademark Office at (571) 273-8300 on the date  
shown below:

**REPLY TO REQUIREMENT FOR ELECTION OF SPECIES**

PILLSBURY WINTHROP SHAW PITTMAN LLP



JEFFREY D. KARCESKI  
Reg. No. 35914

Date: August 1, 2005  
P.O. Box 10500  
McLean, VA 22102  
Telephone: (703) 905-2000  
Facsimile: (703) 905-2500

(Certification of Facsimile Transmission--page 1)

Attorney Docket: 071469-0308803  
Client Reference: PC0240A2

**RECEIVED**  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
AUG 01 2005

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re PATENT APPLICATION of:  
STEVEN T. FINK

Confirmation Number: 3335

Group Art Unit: 2829

Application No.: 10/807,383

Filed: March 24, 2004

Examiner: PATEL, Paresh H.

Title: APPARATUS FOR MONITORING THE CONNECTION STATE OF CONNECTORS  
AND A METHOD FOR USING THE SAME

August 1, 2005

REPLY TO REQUIREMENT  
FOR ELECTION OF SPECIES

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action dated June 30, 2005, the period for reply being August 1, 2005, due to the intervening weekend, the Applicant hereby provisionally elects the species encompassing Figure 3. It is respectfully submitted that claims 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 15, and 16 read on the elected species. This response to requirement for election of species is made with traverse.

MPEP § 808 states: "Every requirement to restrict has two aspects: (A) the reasons (as distinguished from the mere statement of conclusion) why the inventions *as claimed* are either independent or distinct; and (B) the reasons for insisting upon restriction therebetween as set forth in the following sections." (Italics emphasis is in original.)

MPEP § 808.02 states: "The examiner, in order to establish reasons for insisting upon restriction, must show by appropriate explanation one of the following: (A) Separate

FINK — 10/807,383  
Client/Matter: 071469-0308803

classification thereof; (B) A separate status in the art when they are classifiable together;  
(c) A different field of search.”

It is respectfully submitted that the search and examination of the entire application can be made without a serious burden and that the criteria for a proper requirement for election of species have not been met. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that the Requirement for Election of Species is improper and must be withdrawn.

Figure 2 illustrates an exploded view of the probe between a plasma source housing and an impedance match network 102. (The Specification at paragraph [0019].) Fig. 3 illustrates a probe contact assembly interface that is more generic than that illustrated in Fig. 2. (The specification at paragraph [0020].) In Fig. 3, the probe contact assembly is not illustrated between the ground pin assembly 116 integrated between the plasma source 106 and the impedance match network 102. (The specification at paragraph [0020].) Fig. 4 illustrates a probe contact assembly interface used in the mating of two cable assemblies. (The specification at paragraph [0021].) Fig. 5 also illustrates a probe contact assembly interface used in the mating of two cable assemblies. (The specification at paragraph [0022].) In Fig. 5, the assembly is similar to that illustrated in Fig. 4 except that a probe adapter 502 is provided for the probe contact assembly 410. (The specification at paragraph [0022].) Fig. 6 illustrates a probe contact assembly interface used in the mating of a cable assembly to an electrical box assembly. (The specification at paragraph [0023].)

In each case, the common feature is the probe, among other features. The difference between the figures lies primarily in the environment within which the probe is employed. Accordingly, the Applicant respectfully submits that there is no undue burden on the Examiner to examine each of the species because the examination of the species encompassed by Fig. 3 necessarily will require an examination of the species illustrated in the remaining figures and described by the specification. In other words, it is respectfully

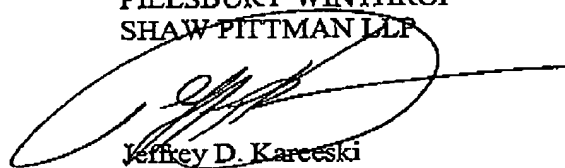
FINK - 10/807,383  
Client/Matter: 071469-0308803

submitted that the search and examination for the elected species necessarily encompasses the search and examination for non-elected species. In addition, it is respectfully submitted that the Election of Species Requirement should be withdrawn to in order to prevent duplicative examination by the Patent Office and unnecessary expense to the Applicants.

Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Election of Species Requirement are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

PILLSBURY WINTHROP  
SHAW PITTMAN LLP



Jeffrey D. Karceski  
Reg. No. 35914  
Tel. No. (703) 905-2110  
Fax No. (703) 905-2500

Date: August 1, 2005  
P.O. Box 10500  
McLean, VA 22102  
(703) 905-2000